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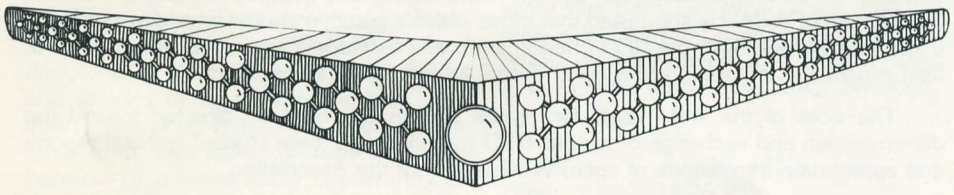

Boomerang shaped UFO
March 1983

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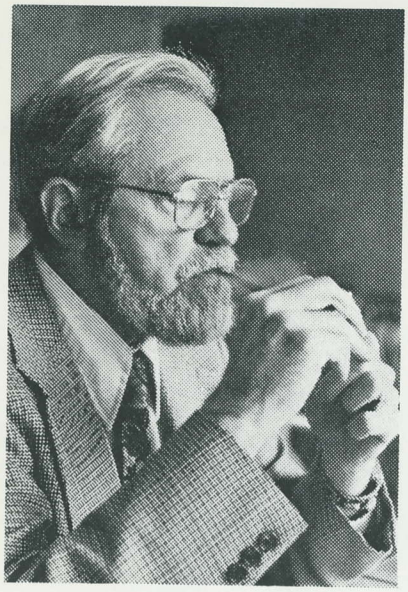

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EDITORIAL

Guest Editorial

Dr. Willy Smith

There appears to be a slow but sure world-wide movement toward the unification of efforts in serious ufological study. In this country we have the emergent North American Federation of Ufology, in Argentina there is a similar Federation striving to maintain standards, and the first truly international effort in this direction has been PICUR (Provisional International Committee for UFO Research), organized through BUFORA (British UFO Research Organization) and to which more than 20 countries "adhere." In the forthcoming meetings in London, Aug. 26-29, it is expected that the term "provisional" will be dispensed with since the infant organization now seems strong enough to stand on its own feet.

The most recent move toward bringing together serious individual workers in this field is the World Ufological Association (WUA), originally conceived during the Ufological Congress in Rosario, Argentina, five months earlier. Further steps toward structuring the WUA were taken during the second International Congress of Ufology, in Brasilia, Brazil, April 17-21, 1983. Here the matter was discussed extensively by ufologists from different countries attending the Congress. In agreement with the resolutions made in Rosario, tentative By Laws and Regulations were proposed by members from Argentina. According to these By Laws, the new association will have a Board of Directors composed of seven members from different parts of the world, to be appointed by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, who was elected Temporary Chairman.

It might appear to one that there could be an impending conflict between these two world organizations, PICUR and WUA. We point out immediately the PICUR (soon to become ICUR) is composed of member **countries** while WUA is composed of **individuals.** In PICUR, each country is represented officially by one or more **organizations** within that country, which in turn appoint individuals within that organization to represent that country in international meetings of PICUR. In the World Ufological Association each individual represents himself, regardless of whether he belongs to any given organization.

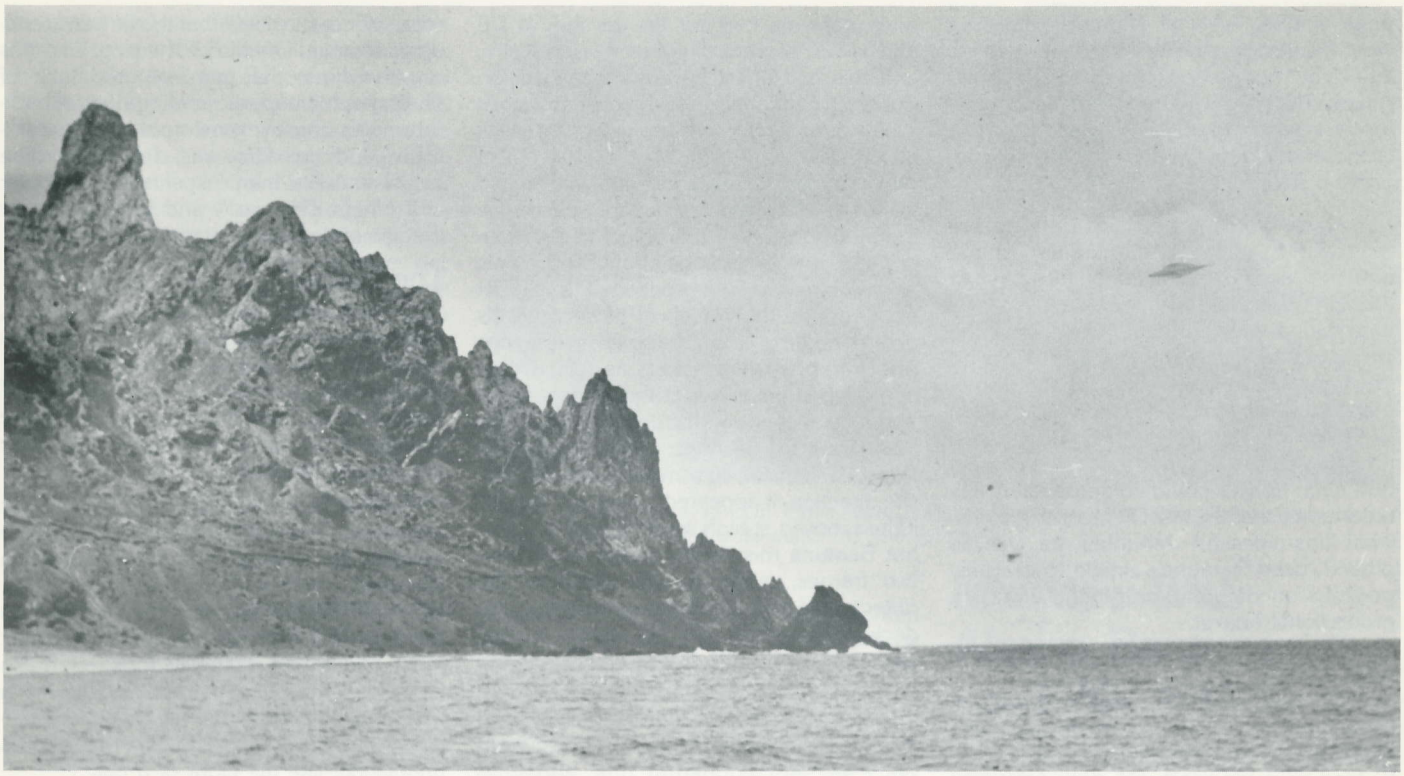
When interviewed by the JORNAL DE BRASILIA, Dr. Hynek indicated his hopes that the WUA will become functional within two years and that he would devote his efforts during his temporary chairmanship to helping set standards for membership in the WUA. He stressed that an organization aiming to speak for World Ufology would be respected only if the caliber of its membership could command such respect. The standards will be set by the Board of Directors of the Association. Dr. Hynek explained that the major difficulty will be to find individuals of high responsibility and integrity wishing to work for the success of WUA. He suggested that those suitable persons should have demonstrated a long involvement with the UFO phenomenon and its study, certainly involving years of field experience in addition to a good overall knowledge of the subject.

The work of the WUA itself, Dr. Hynek explained, would be directed toward the dissemination and exchange of serious UFO materials (i.e., case studies, general reports and appropriate translations of such) to members of the Association.

Dr. Hynek and Mrs. Cynthia Hind, from Zimbabwe, were appointed to present the news of the creation of the World Ufological Association to the ufologists attending the coming BUFORA meetings in London this August. They were asked to stress that the WUA, as an organization of individuals, does not conflict with the objectives of PICUR but rather complements them. Dr. Hynek is President Emeritus of PICUR.

Editor's Note: This parallels the manner in which scientific disciplines are organized on a world-wide basis. There exists an overall organization called ICSU (International Commission of Scientific Unions). There are associated with this overall organization numerous International Scientific Unions such as the International Telegraphic Union, the International Astronomical Union, the International Geological Union and a host of others. Countries "adhere" to a particular Union through a designated organization in that country. Taking the International Astronomical Union as an example, the United States adheres to the IAU through the American Astronomical Society, Germany through the Astronomische Geseilschaft etc. Similarly, separate countries will "adhere" to ICUR through separate organizations within those countries.

Trindade Revisited



This is one of six photos taken by professional photographer, Almiro Barauna, from the deck of the Almirante Saldanha off the coast of Trindade Island, Brazil, on Jan. 16, 1958.

Ed Note: Twenty-five years ago a series of photographs of a UFO were taken from onboard a Brazilian Navy vessel, a sailing ship, then engaged in scientific work. Both the UFO and the taking of the pictures were witnessed by 47 crew members, who vouched for both. These photographs have stood the test of time, and have appeared in many books and articles about UFOs over this past quarter-century. Why, then, reopen this case after this lapse of time? Largely because of a remarkable opportunity to discuss and reminisce with the man who took the photographs, Almiro Barauna, at the time of the Second International Congress of Ufology, in April, 1983. At a dinner party, which included Leo Sprinkle, Virgilio Sanchez-Ocejo, Cynthia Hind, and Irene Granchi, new information about the Trindade event surfaced, making it worthwhile to review the whole matter, especially as there are many people interested in the UFO phenomenon who have little knowledge of this particular event, and also because the full story has never been told.

One person who has followed the Trindade case and controversy over the years has been Dr. Willy Smith, and we have asked him to review it for us. To his review we have appended a short account of our conversation with Senor Barauna.

Dr. Willy Smith

TYPE: DD
DATE: Jan. 16, 1958
TIME: 12:20 P.M.
DURATION: 1-2 minutes
WITNESSES: 48
PLACE: Trindade Island, off the coast of Brazil

Some UFO cases have apparently remained immune to the attacks of the self-appointed debunkers. It is curious that often these sightings are rarely mentioned in modern literature despite their potential probatory value for the reality of the UFO phenomenon. We marvel at the richness of information that has simply been ignored. The Trindade photographs fall into this category.

The Scenario

Trindade Island is located at 20° 30′ S. and 29° 20′ W. in the Atlantic Ocean, about 1200 Km. off the coast of Brazil, the country to which it belongs. It is a small, rocky place, used during World War II as an anti-submarine base by the United States, but largely abandoned since. In October, 1958, during the International Geophysical Year, the Brazilian Navy established a meteorological and oceanographic station there. During January, 1958, the sailing vessel *Almirante Saldanha* of the Hydrographic and Navigation Division of the Brazilian Navy had anchored there, and on the morning of Jan. 16 was making ready to return to Rio.

Cast of Characters

Besides the normal crew of the *Almirante Saldanha*, under the command of Jose Saldanha da Gama, there were on board submarine divers to take underwater photographs around the island. This civilian group was headed by Amilcar Vieira Filho, a lawyer and bank executive, and, among others, included a retired captain of the Brazilian Air Force, Jose Teobaldo Viegas, as well as Almiro Barauna, a professional

photographer. All in all, 48 ocular witnesses were on deck during the incident. Also on board, but not on deck, was Captain Carlos Alberto Bacellar, who had been responsible for the revamping of the installations on the island and was commander of the oceanographic station.

A few words concerning Barauna are mandatory, as the circumstances made him the leading character of the play. At the time, Barauna was 42 years old and had had a previous involvment with the subject of UFOs. It was he, in 1953, who had refuted the authenticity of the photographs taken by Ed Keffel at a place known as Barra da Tijuca[1]. In so doing he had prepared photographs which demonstrated how such hoaxes could be perpetrated. It is unfortunate that the late Dr. Menzel, a somewhat unsuccessful debunker, as well as others[2], used Barauna's article to cast dispersions on Barauna, presenting him as a professional hoaxer.

The Play

On Jan. 16, 1958, amid preparations to cast anchor, Barauna was on deck with his f/2.8 lens Rolleiflex Model E camera. As he was prepared to take photos of the final trip of the small boat used between ship and shore, he had set the camera at f/8 and 1/125 second. The sea was not calm, and this had upset Barauna who had forgotten to take his seasickness pills. At 12:20 p.m. excitement broke out on deck at the fast approach of a bright object moving toward the island. Filho, Viegas and Lt. Ribeiro shouted to Barauna, gesticulating and pointing to the object in the overcast sky. It took Barauna about 30 seconds to get going; he then proceeded to take six photographs (at intervals of 14 seconds, as determined by later tests). The first two photographs were taken as the object approached the island. It then disappeared behind the central mountain (Desejado Peak) for a few seconds; as it reappeared a few seconds later, now moving in the opposite direction, it appeared closer and bigger. It then moved at high speed toward the sea, but Barauna missed the object in his next two frames, owing to the speed of the object and the confusion prevailing on deck at the time. He did obtain a final photo when the object was already far out to sea and when it, apparently, had stopped momentarily in mid-air. After about ten seconds it moved away and disappeared in the distance.

Commander Bacellar, as well as the other officers, insisted that the film be developed at once, in spite of the poor facilities on board for that purpose and lack of photographic paper to make prints. A bathroom was quickly transformed into a darkroom and the film was developed. The negatives were then inspected by Bacellar and others. Frames 4 and 5 showed only the sea and rocky coast.

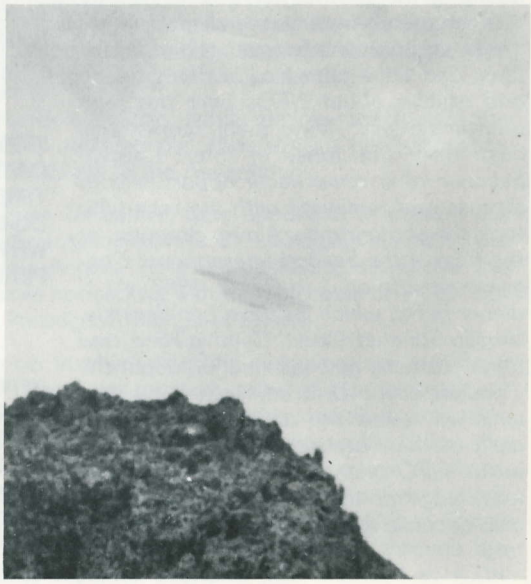
The Props

The photos were taken on a bright, overcast day, and the settings on the camera led to slightly overexposed negatives. It was, however, a wise decision of Barauna's not to attempt to modify the settings; if he had done so he might have lost his opportunity.

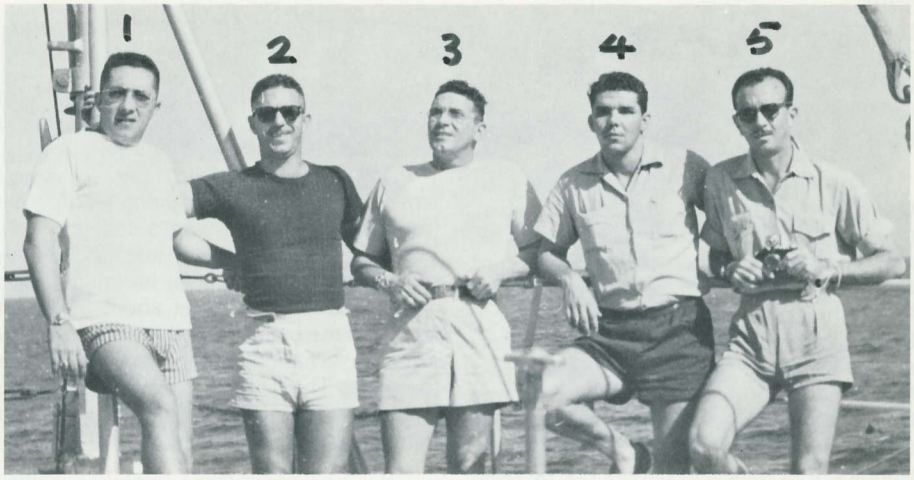
According to Capt. Viegas, the object was like a flattened sphere encircled at the equator by a large ring or platform. In Barauna's words, "...it made no noise, although with the shouting of the people on the deck and the noise of the sea, I cannot be certain. It had a metallic look, of an ash color, and has like a condensation of a green vapor around the perimeter, particularly in the advancing edge. Its motion was undulating, like the flight of a bat."

As determined by the photographs,

At left, the object passes over and then behind the mountains. Below is an enlargement of the object. Barauna reported the object had an ash-color metallic appearance, a condensation of green vapor around the perimeter, particularly the advancing edge, and moved in an undulating manner.



the object was tilted slightly, the upper part directed toward the motion. It appears quite sharp in photos 2 and 3, corresponding to the closest approach and minimum speed, while the contours appear slightly blurred in photos 1 and 4, corresponding to the maximum distance. In view of the distance from camera to object, a shutter speed of 1/125 second is sufficient to freeze an object moving at speeds of several hundred miles per hour. (The Brazilian Navy estimated the speed of the object to be 600 to 700 mph.) The object shown in the four photos resembles the planet Saturn, and it is not luminous. The photos were proclaimed authentic by John T. Hopf, APRO photographic analyst, as well as by the Cruzeiro do Sul Aerophotogrammetric Service, to which they were referred by the Brazilian navy.



Crew members are 1) Amilcar Vieira Filho, 2) Mauro Freitas, 3) Capt. Jose Viegas, 4) a witness now deceased, 5) Almiro Barauna, the photographer.

The Critics

The incident and the photos caused furor in Brazil, and sides were quickly taken. An inquiry to the Ministry of the Navy made by a member of the Parliament (Sergio Magalhaes) prompted an investigation. The resulting dossier was never made public in its totality, but some details became known to the press, which had also discovered additional information. It appears that this incident was not an isolated one but that at least seven other sightings had occurred over or near the island in the closing months of 1957 and in January, 1958. It was stated that some of these events had been witnessed and confirmed by Commander Bacellar. A photograph, taken with a simple box camera by a sergeant of the garrison prior to Jan. 16, was part of the dossier. Although it was never released, it was seen by Barauna when he was being interrogated at the Ministry of the Navy, and by Dr. Olavo Fontes. The Barauna photographs were released to the press in person, by then President of Brazil, Juscelino Kubitschek.

The matter came to the attention, of course, of the U.S. Naval Attache in Rio. Apparently aware of the attitude of the U.S. military toward UFOs, he filed a report on March 11, 1958[3], calculated to preserve the status quo. It is characterized by its inaccuracies and by the obvious bias of the writer, epitomized by the closing paragraph: ..."a flying saucer sighting would be unlikely at the very barren island of Trindade, as everyone knows Martians are extremely comfort loving creatures."

Nonetheless, this same report transcribes the official position of the Brazilian government, referring to a carefully worded communique issued by the Ministry of the Navy, denying any attempt to suppress the release of the photos that *were taken by Mr. Almiro Barauna* in the presence of navy officers on board the Almirante Saldanha, and remarking that the Navy could not venture an opinion on the nature of the *object that was observed over Trindade Island.* [Emphasis has been added to indicate that the Brazilian Navy accepted for a fact a) that an unidentified object had been detected over Trindade Island, and b) that the Barauna photos were indeed taken at that location and showed the object in question, whatever its true nature might be.

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1. Story, Ronald D., ENCYCLOPEDIA OF UFOs, Doubleday, 1980, p. 41.

2. STENDEK, No. 26, December 1976, p. 14. Article by Michel Bougard, translated from an original in French.

3. Information Report, 39-58, Office of Naval Intelligence, signed by M. Sunderland, Capt. USN [Copy available at CUFOS].

Additional bibliography: Hall, Richard, THE UFO EVIDENCE, NICAP, 1964 pp. 90-91.

Lorenzen, Coral E., THE GREAT FLYING SAUCER HOAX, Signet Books, 1966, pp. 164-74.

Interview With Almiro Barauna, April 20, 1983

It must be remembered that this interview with Mr. Barauna was held 25 years after the event, and that due allowance must be made for the frailty of human memory. Nonetheless, no major contradictions to the facts stated in Dr. Smith's article were found. It was Barauna's recollection that he had used 1/200 sec. exposure at f/6, as against the earlier statement of 1/125 sec. at f/8. It was his recollection also that the Navy had calculated that the object at its closest was 14 km distant and that the object appeared the same size as the full moon (1/2 deg). This seems a surprising distance, yet simple calculation shows that at that distance the object would appear to travel 48 degrees across the sky in a minute and would have an actual size of about 350 feet. Neither of these are unreasonable figures.

Q: What was the public's reaction?

A: Opinion was divided; three newspapers attacked me, six supported me. My enemies took advantage of the situation! But it didn't come out in the newspapers for 30 days.

Q: What happened during those 30 days?

A: The Navy was testing the photographs. I went three times to the Navy's

(Continued on Page 14)

An Indiana CE-III

TYPE: CE-III
DATE: Jan. 12, 1983
TIME: 4:30-5 P.M.
DURATION: 5 minutes
WITNESSES: 3 [Ages, 45, 15, 10]
PLACE: Pine Township, IN.

by R. A. Busse

The Center for UFO Studies asked me to investigate this case because of my proximity to the witnesses [Ed note: and because Mr. Busse has an established record as a serious, careful investigator]. The Center had been alerted to this UFO event by the principal witness who, after many attempts to find a logical place to report this event, called the White House and was then directed to the Center. He and his sons were fully cooperative, with the understanding that their real names not be used in view of the fact that the father, a 45-year-old man, holds a very visible position in the community and feared unfavorable comment if this highly strange CE-III event was generally known. You will soon see why.

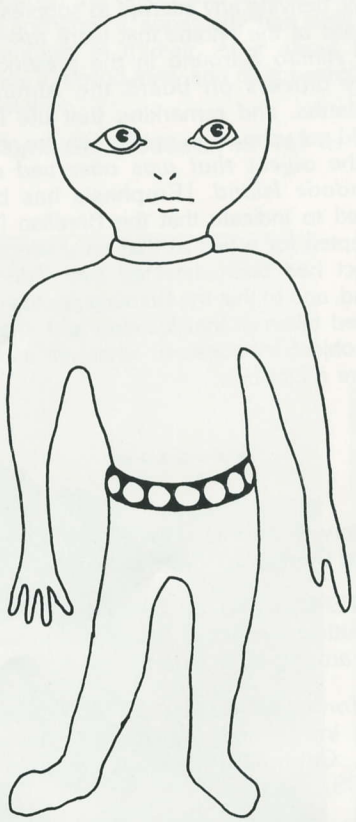
It was after 4:30 p.m. and that January afternoon was a "dusky time of heavy cloud cover," according to Ed Eggen who had just returned from work. His two sons, John and Donald, had just come home from school.

"It was getting dusk pretty fast," Ed stated, describing how he had glanced out of the living room windows and saw an inverted L-shaped object, glowing like a neon sign. It was over a clear portion of a swamp bordering the south side of X street (see diagram), approximately 300 feet from the window. Within seconds his son Donald called out that "something is moving out there!" Simultaneously, their three dogs became excited, one in particular barking loudly and becoming extremely agitated. Oddly enough, some yard geese, who were usually unfailing and very noisy "watch-dogs," were quiet.

John and his father immediately ran onto X street. Don stopped to put on his shoes, leaving the house just as his father and older brother got to the fence along X street. (It was Don who told his father while both were still in the house looking at the glowing object that "there's a little person holding it.")

It was at this moment that the father saw the small being holding the object, but the object and the being were *floating two to three feet off the ground!* The being itself, "about three feet tall" was facing southeast and thus away from Ed and John. It gave the impression that it was "looking or searching for something." John apparently did not take note of the being which, at the moment, was stationary. "Funny thing," Ed said later, "I wasn't afraid." The being was wearing a light gray wetsuit-type "uniform" with a dark gray belt. The belt, the father said, was ringed with circles or circular objects, (at this time he was standing on X street about 50 to 60 feet from the being), and the being had two arms, legs, hands and feet, all appropriate to its size. The head of the being, however, was "very large," much larger than a human head, and bare.

We now have Don running out after his father and brother. When he was but 20 feet from the house, he saw a second little being peering over the fence (see diagram). Don immediately began "jogging" toward the second creature and was about midway between the house and X street when he called to his father, attempting to call his attention to the second being. Ed turned and confirmed the presence of the second being.



This is a drawing of the being studied by Ed from a distance of about 12 feet. It wore a wetsuit type of garb, with no zippers or buttons. The dark grey belt seemed to have circles or rings which touched each other and went all the way around.

Don now increased his jog to a run and came close enough to the second being to note that its eyes were "bigger than a person's eyes — like a frog has, big old eyes." The being's nose area, Don said, "was little but caved-in and flat." Don added with some surprise that, as he came close, "the thing gave me a real weird stare. Usually, when you see something like that, you want to turn and go the other way. But my feet just kept going that way."

(It is this investigator's feeling that in saying this, Don meant that he was surprised that he wasn't afraid and couldn't deny his own curiosity about the being. I do not believe, after careful questioning of Don, that his statement implied anything paranormal or mind-controlling.)

The object that the being was apparently holding or guiding was 6 feet high and four to six inches in diameter, Ed estimated. However, he said that because it emitted a "fuzzy glow" and had "fuzzy edges" he could not be positive about the diameter. He could detect no definite physical outline within the glow. "It's like my cigarette," he explained, "it has a definite shape and thickness, but if it glowed like that thing glowed, I might never know it.

Ed said that the right-angled appendage atop the object, giving it the upside down L-shape, also glowed and was about two to three feet long. (John described it as T-shaped rather than L-shaped. The glow was steady, neither pulsing, brightening or dimming. There was no sound coming from either the being or the object.

At the time Ed turned at the sound of Don's voice, he found himself looking at the back of the second being (holding nothing) who was peering at Don over the fence from the X street side. This being *also hovered two or three feet above the ground.* Both Don and Ed were now approaching this second being, from opposite sides. It turned to face Ed. It wore the same wetsuit-type garb, with no zippers or buttons in evidence. It appeared to Ed as though the being had been literally "poured into" the suit.

Ed and the being now studied each other for the moment, some 12 feet separating them. Ed noticed that the rings or

circles (see drawing) on the dark gray belt touched each other and went all the way around. He reiterated that the being's uniform appeared to be moulded around him, like clear plastic is moulded around merchandise on a store shelf to protect it. This second being wore no mask over his nose area although Ed thought the first being may have.

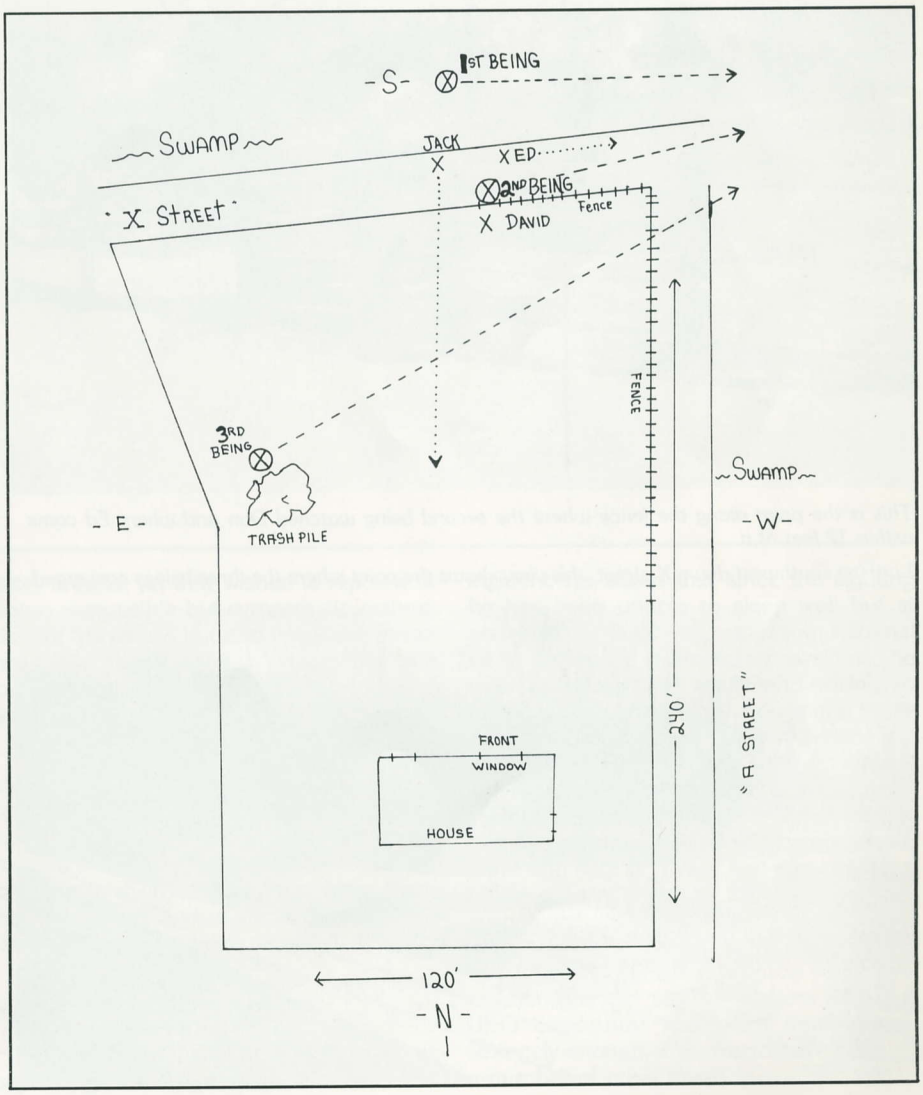
Ed continued to be impressed, he stated during the interviews, with the being's very large head and its fish-like eyes, "twice the size of human eyes and resembling a carp's." The eyes had eyelashes and they blinked occasionally. The head was off-color ivory and its texture was "very smooth" although he detected what appeared to be "veins" along what he interpreted to be skin on the head. The being had no ears and it's nose area was marked by "two slits or indentations."

Ed said he tried to head off any panic among his boys by telling them: "They won't hurt us, boys. Jack, don't be scared." Ed said he felt positive that he and the boys would not be hurt. He tried also to pacify the second being by saying to it: "We won't hurt you, we won't hurt you." But he saw no expression on the being's face that would indicate that he was being understood. Ed also said that he detected no verbal or mental communication from this second being which continued to display no facial expressions.

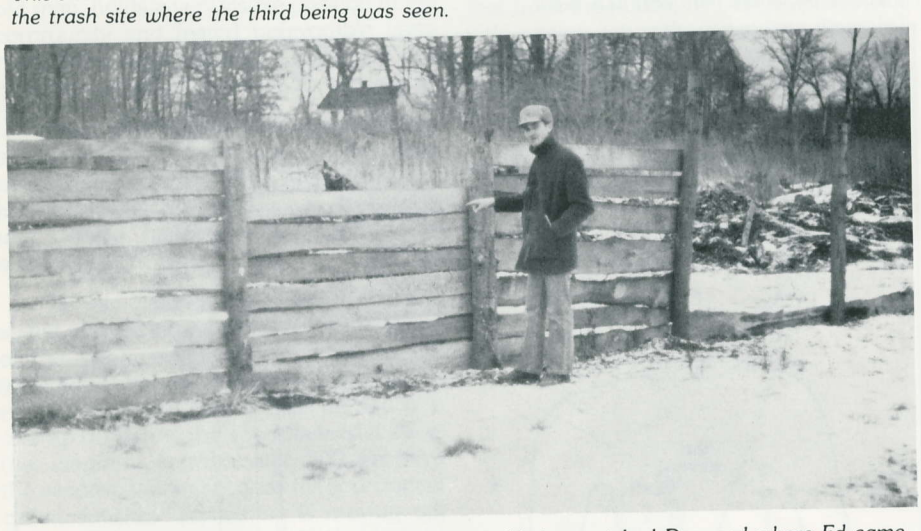
John, the older boy, is slower and less communicative than the ten-year-old and appeared to have trouble in organizing and relating his thoughts. (Ed note: I can confirm from my telephone interview with Don that he is indeed a bright and articulate lad). John did become frightened and ran back to the house shortly after arriving on X street with his father.

To this point, there had been no motion on the part of the beings, and only a few moments had elapsed. Now, as if on cue, the first being (still holding the glowing object) began *floating* rapidly toward the west in a straight line nearly paralleling X street (see diagram). Ed ran after it, but it maintained a 50-60 foot interval from him. Now, the second being also began floating diagonally across X street, apparently intent upon intercepting the first being at whatever position the first being was headed for. Meanwhile, as Ed glanced momentarily backward, he saw Jack running back toward the house and Don trotting onto X street.

This photo was taken from Ed's living room window, looking south, at about the same time of day when Ed first noticed a bright L-shaped object held by a small being. The arrow points to the position where the being was seen.



This view looks north across the X street fence toward Ed's home. The arrow at right points to the trash site where the third being was seen.



This is the point along the fence where the second being watched Don and where Ed came within 12 feet of it.

Looking southwest down X street, this view shows the point where the three beings converged.

At this juncture, a third being entered the picture! Some 200 feet behind Don's position at the moment there was a small pile of junk in the yard (see diagram). It was near this pile that Ed saw a third being, also floating two or three feet above the ground. Immediately, it began to move through the air "very fast and much faster than the other two," moving diagonally across the yard on a line which would bring it toward the destination of the other two beings. The junk pile was near the eastern line of Ed's property, meaning that in order to rendezvous with the other beings it had to double and triple their speed to reach their meeting point at the same time.

Ed ran westward down X street, trying to keep pace with the first two beings as the trio ultimately converged at a point about 300 feet west of the first being's original position, still some 50 to 60 feet west of X street (see diagram). The third being, meantime, had cleared the fence on A street and moved diagonally across X street to join its two companions; all three reached the point of convergence almost simultaneoulsy.

Meanwhile, Don reported, he had seen the first and second beings begin to move westward but did not see the third being "until the last second" and then only out of the corner of his eye as a "streak" heading toward the convergence point just a second before the beings came together. By "streak" he meant moving very swiftly, rapidly. But he perceived the third being as being similar to the other two.

Ed arrived at a position on X street directly alongside (perpendicular) the trio (see diagram) in time to witness the following: the beings came together, but did not merge or blend. Ed recalls that they remained separate entities, but, then, visual confusion occurred. Ed can't resolve in his mind whether each being held on to the glowing object or whether the second and third just gathered around it.

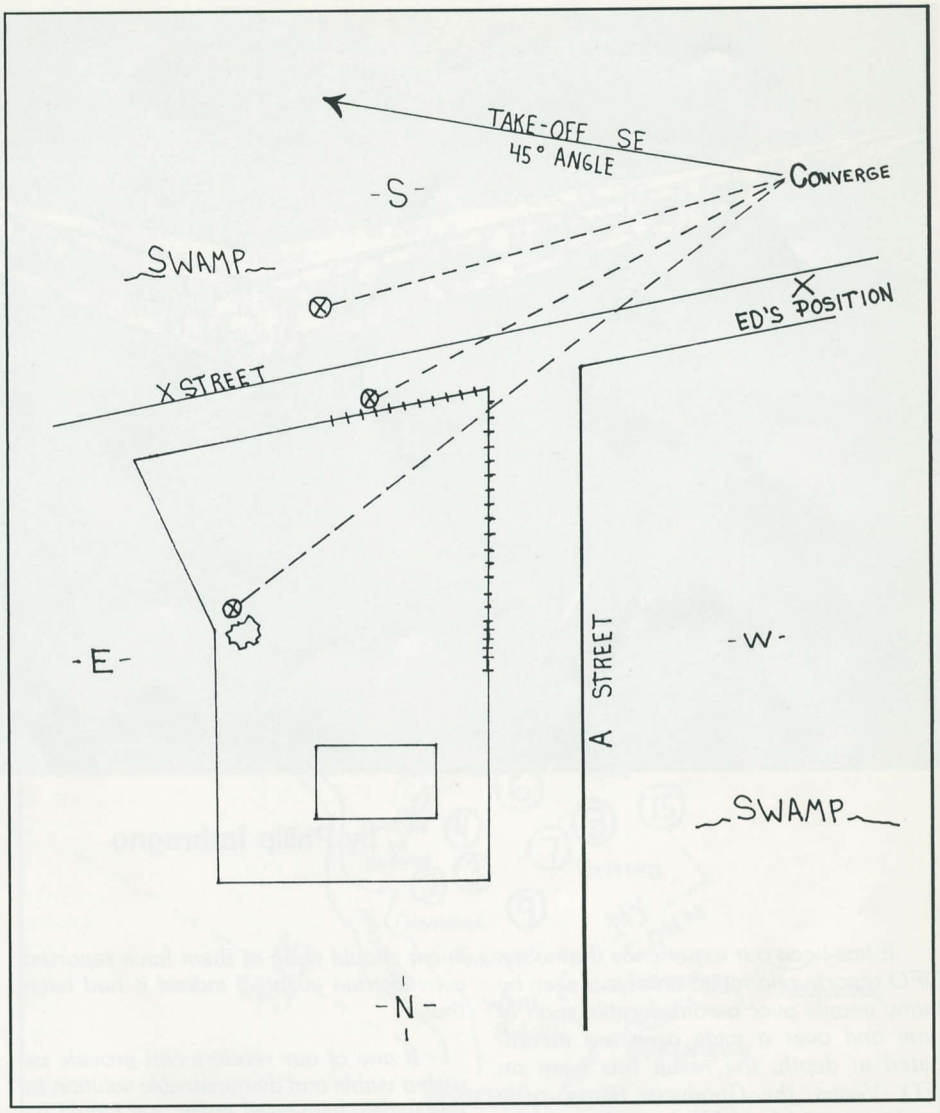
Then, at that moment, the three turned into a profusion (or better, confusion) of light and "shot" or "streaked" skyward in a southeasterly direction at about a 45 degree angle, clearing the highest trees in that part of the swamp, and vanished into the cloud cover. Ed remembers that the upside down L-shaped staff "straightened out into one long glowing thing when the beings took off."

Like his father, Don reported that all three beings converged at the departure

point, "turned into light" and shot into the sky. John had retreated to the house by that time. In his brief testimony he related that he perceived the glowing object in a somewhat different way: T-shaped and not stationary but drifting a few feet this way and that above the ground over the clear area in the swamp where it was originally sighted by his father.

Shortly after the spectacular disappearance, Ed examined the yard area next to the fence where the second being had floated and the clearing where he had first sighted the being and the glowing rod, but could find no physical evidence of the encounter. Although there was cloud cover, he said the air was crisp and clear that late afternoon. It had not snowed in a long while and the ground was snow-free and relatively dry.

Thus ends the testimony of Mr. Eggen and his sons.



Editorial Comment:

What can possibly be said of this testimony? As usual, or as is almost usual, there was no physical evidence to examine. The positive effect on the dogs and the seeming negative effect on the geese can hardly turn this into a CE-II since the action of the animals is also hearsay. Even had there been snow on the ground, the floating action of the beings would have precluded footprints.

As akin to a "fairy tale" as this account is, it bears much relation to other CE-III cases. None of them "belong" to our familiar physical world and the way we normally experience it. The appearance of the beings bears remarkable resemblance to other cases from many parts of the world. Yet, there is no evidence that Mr. Eggen and his sons knew or cared much about UFO cases of this or any sort. Of course, what beings from beyond our world are *supposed* to look like can be found in magazines and movies and cartoon books.

No one can say, however, that this account was spawned by a desire for publicity or to in any way capitalize on it. The witnesses, like the great majority of those interviewed by our staff and that of other UFO organizations, were truly puzzled. They had what was to them an unquestionably real experience, one which generally remains with them for many years. The witnesses in this case, as in many others, emphatically did not want to spread the story around, yet they wished to report it to some responsible but sympathetic authorities for the record but also to receive assurance that they were not unique but that others in this and other countries had had similar experiences.

In a sense, a UFO "case" is never closed. It is becoming increasingly important to follow-up CE-III cases (as well as others which involve traumatic situations) to note possible effects on the lives of the percipients. Sometimes these have been notable indeed, and in some cases a similar experience has been repeated.

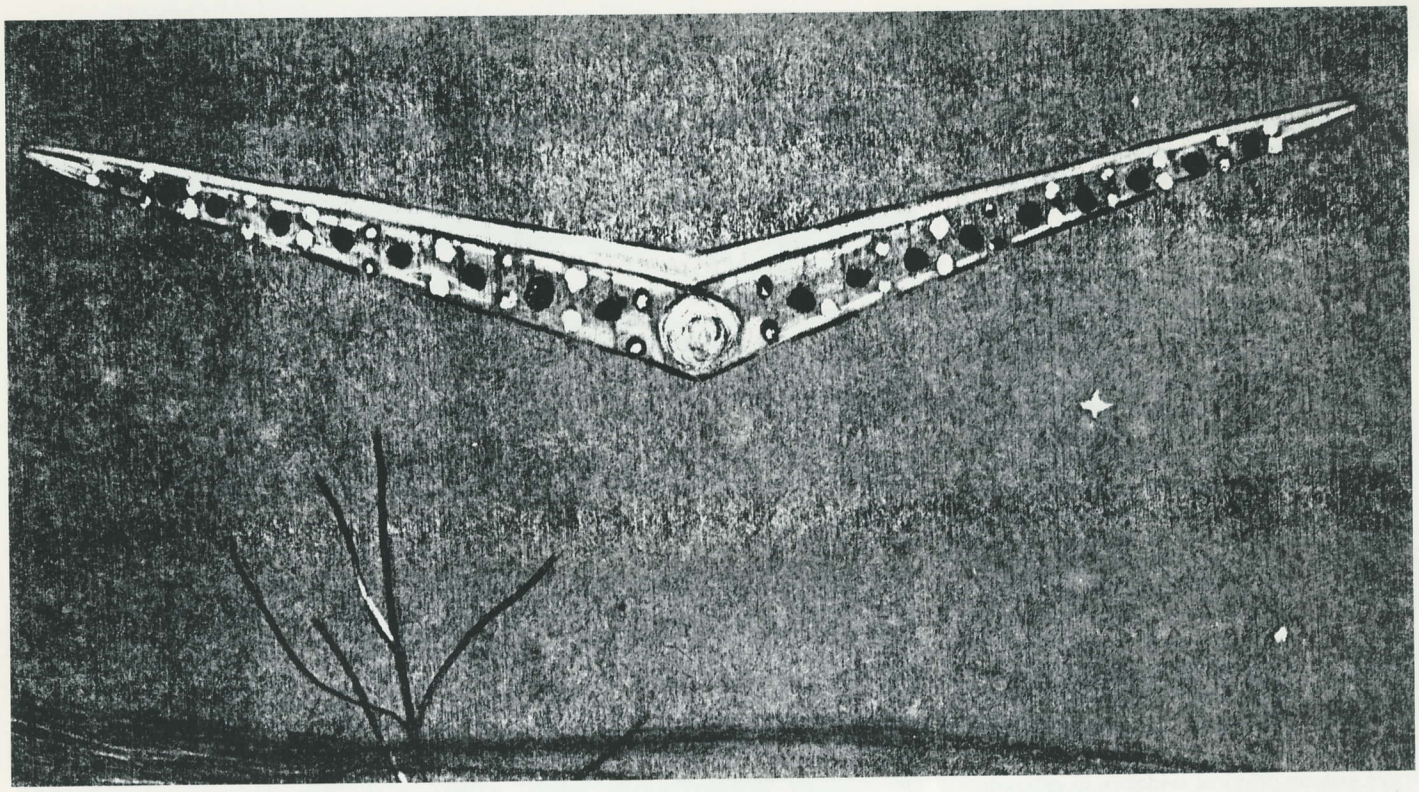
In the present case, our investigator, Mr. Busse, has this to report:

Ed Eggen reports no behavioral or psychological changes in his sons since the incident. He stated that since the sighting he has been unable to sleep well but at certain times feels well rested with minimal sleep. When he prematurely awakens, he feels energized and ready and willing to tackle projects around the house and those related to his job and to family routine.

He said that since his encounter, he is able to do his regular job "much better, and things come easier. I feel more authoritative and sure of myself and about life. I'm not in a hurry anymore...less stress about everything."

Even though this is a purely subjective reaction, we can say nonetheless that this UFO encounter has been helpful, as, strangely enough, it seems to have been in a number of other cases.

Boomerang Over Three Counties



by Philip Imbrogno

It has been our experience that when UFO reports relating to an object seen by many people over a considerable span of time and over a wide area are investigated in depth, the result has been an IFO; Venus, the Goodyear Blimp, or a bright meteor have often been the culprits. Thus, when the present case first came to our attention, the initial response was to feel that it, too, must have a pedestrian explanation.

Here, however, we have a case which has failed to yield such an explanation. Mr. Imbrogno and his associates have done yeoman service to the Center, interviewing far more witnesses than are usually available for such work, and their work continues. To the present, Mr. Imbrogno has not found a plausible solution to these many reports, assuming, of course, that the features and dynamics of the UFO were, in the main, correctly reported. With hundreds of witnesses involved, quite independently of each other, it would in itself be a remarkable event should none of them have reported a pedestrian event, if indeed it had been that.

If any of our readers can provide us with a viable and demonstrable solution to this widely witnessed event, we would be most anxious to have it submitted.

This report deals with widely reported sightings on three nights of March, 1983, in areas of Westchester, Putnam, and Fairfield counties in New York and Connecticut, although similar sightings were made in those and other adjacent areas, to a lesser extent, in that general time period. The location of the viewers on March 24 are shown on the accompanying map. The report strongly suggests that the UFO was sequentially sighted along a circulatory flight path centered in points in those counties, although the presence of more than one object is not ruled out.

In a nutshell, there is general agreement among the percipients that the object was large (100-200 feet) and boomerang-shaped (sometimes reported as triangular, a deviation which might be attributed to different angles and distances of viewing). It carried a large complement of red, white, green, and blue lights, plus one large amber light, centrally located. The object cruised slowly, silently or with a low buzz or hum, remarkably near to the ground (estimates vary from 60 to 500 feet) but also sometimes hovered for as long as one or two minutes before it moved on. Some witnesses said they were within 100 to 200 feet of the UFO.

Following are individual summaries of sightings on the night of March 24, and a few from the nights of March 17 and 26th.

MARCH 24

Yorktown, N.Y. 7 p.m.: At least 100 residents, including police officers, sight a large Boomerang or V-shaped object with rows of white, green and red lights heading northeast. A faint humming sound is heard. The object is 200 feet or greater from wing to wing; moving slowly towards Jefferson Valley, N.Y.

Mount Kisco, N.Y. 9:10 p.m. (approx.): Ten witnesses report a large colorful object about 500 feet over Route I-684. People stop their cars on highway to get a look and nearly cause multiple accidents. One observer notes that as the object comes directly over his car at a height of 300 feet he sees a pattern of very bright (he has to shield his eyes) red, greenish blue, and white lights in a very wide V-shaped pattern. He hears a very faint humming sound as the object passes less than 300 feet above his car. Another witness clocks object speed at 35 mph.

Mahopec, N.Y. 9-9:20 p.m.: A large boomerang-shaped object approximately 150 feet across, with 30 or more rows of greenish-blue and white lights on its wings is seen hovering over Taconic highway by hundreds (75 actual reports submitted). A police officer reports that he got right under the object and then heard a slight humming sound. Thirty more witnesses later report an object hovering over a lake off Route 6 for several minutes and then slowly heading north.

New Castle, N.Y. 9:10 p.m.: A boomerang-shaped object the size of a 747, with red, blue, green and with a white light in the center, hovers 100 feet over a field for about two minutes, then rises vertically about 200 feet and heads towards Yorktown, N.Y.

Yorktown, N.Y. Approx. 9 p.m.: At least 50 people report the same object as before, now heading east, very low, very large, with no sound, but hovering at times over Taconic Parkway, stopping traffic.

Brewster, N.Y. Approx. 10 p.m.: Many families living around Route I-84 report a large triangle-shaped object with bright white lights hovering over the area and then slowly moving northeast. Witnesses report hearing a soft buzzing noise similar to an electric can opener.

MARCH 17

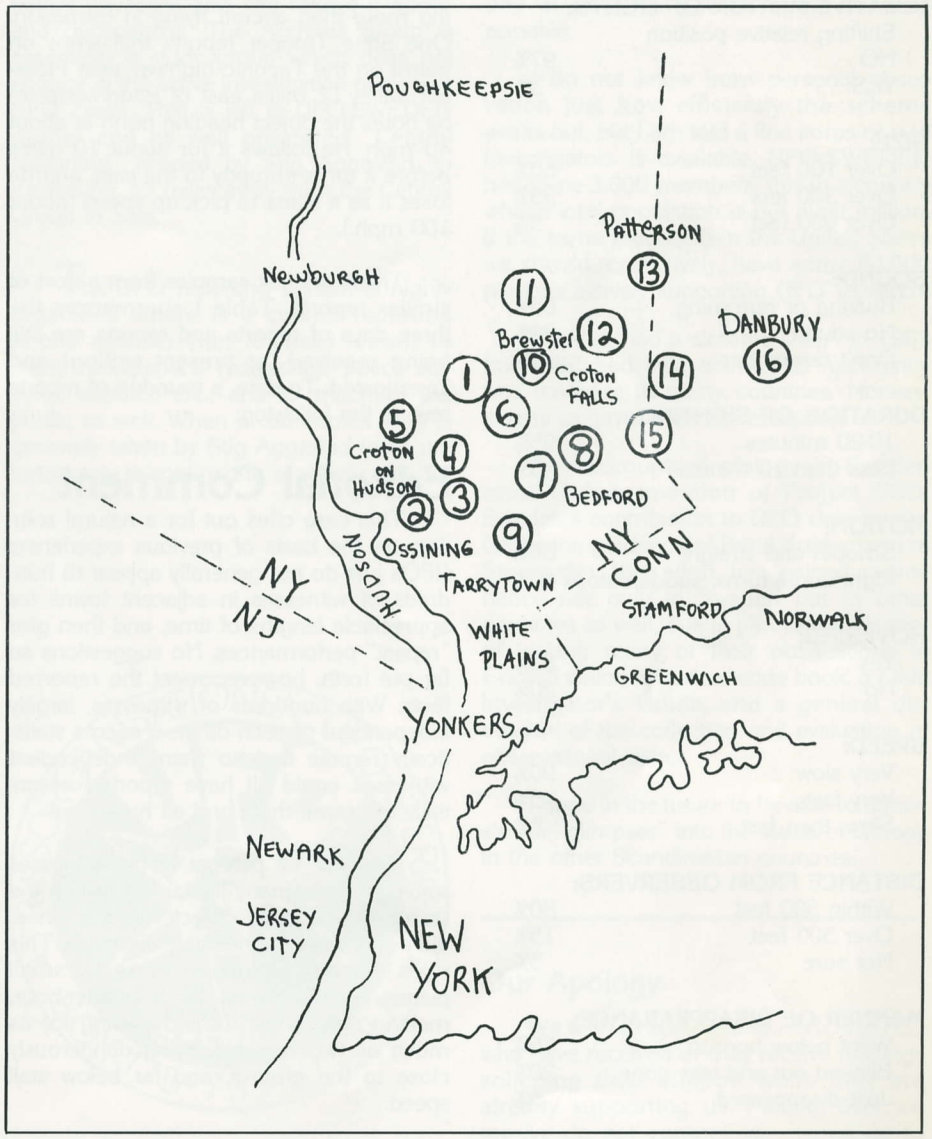
Brewster, N.Y. 8:30-9:15 p.m.: Twenty-five local residents near Route I-84 see a large boomerang-shaped object approximately 130 feet above the ground, moving slowly northeast, and approximately 100 feet across. [Ed note: One of these figures must be wrong; simple trigonometry shows that if both the 130 and 100 feet figures are correct the object would subtend an angle of 37 degrees, thus stretching across better than one-third of the sky! Witness estimates of sizes, and especially heights above ground are of little value unless it is also stated exactly how they were estimated.] The object is seen hovering, and then making sharp turns. Several witnesses report that the object slowly passes over their houses; two report the object hovering over their backyard, less than 60 feet above the ground, then shooting a brilliant white light towards the ground. No sound, or at best, a faint humming sound heard.

Mahopec Lake, N.Y. 10:15 p.m.: Six witnesses report seeing a large boomerang-shaped object hovering low over a reservoir on the town line. The object then tips from a horizontal position to vertical, with the apex of the boomerang pointing toward the water. As it slowly moves northward, all the lights blink out and the object is gone.

MARCH 26

Mahopec, N.Y. 9 p.m.: Twenty observers, independent of each other, see a large boomerang-shaped object, with vari-colored lights on its wings and with a large amber

(Continued on Page 12)



On March 24, 1983, from 7 to 10:45 p.m., the boomerang-shaped object was seen over the 16 locations marked on the above map. In order, these include: the New York towns of Yorktown, Ossining, New Castle, Croton, Peekskill, Yorktown again, Chappaqua, New Castle again, Mount Kisco, Mahopec, Carmel, Brewster, Putnam Lake, North Salem, Salem, and finally, Danbury, Conn.

Boomerang — continued

TABLE I

SHAPE:	
Boomerang	90%
Triangle	9%
Other	1%
LIGHTS:	
Blue-green, red, white or amber	85%
Red, blue	5%
White	5%
Not sure	5%
RELATIVE MOTION OF LIGHTS:	
Shifting relative position	
NO	97%
YES	3%
SIZE:	
Over 100 feet	60%
Over 300 feet	35%
Over 900 feet	5%
SOUND:	
Buzzing or humming	65%
No sound	30%
Don't remember	5%
DURATION OF SIGHTING:	
10-20 minutes	95%
Less than 10 minutes	5%
MOTION:	
Smooth and straight	60%
Right angle turns, sudden stops	40%
HOVERING:	
Yes	80%
No	20%
SPEED:	
Very slow	90%
Very fast	5%
Slow, then fast	5%
DISTANCE FROM OBSERVERS:	
Within 500 feet	80%
Over 500 feet	15%
Not sure	5%
MANNER OF DISAPPEARANCE:	
Went below horizon	75%
Blinked out and was gone	20%
Just disappeared	5%
PERSONAL REACTIONS:	
None	85%
Some psychic connection	10%
Not sure	5%
(3% reported animal reactions)	

light in the center casting a beam of white light ahead. The object is first seen hovering over a large lake off Route 6. One observer reports noting a very dark metallic-like gray metal rod or rods connecting the lights.

Near Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 10:45 p.m: The State Police receive the first of 25 calls within 30 minutes from area residents describing an object similar to that described above. The police did not record calls in their log or take names of callers since they felt people were reporting nothing more than aircraft flying in formation. One State Trooper reports that while on patrol on the Taconic highway near Pleasant Valley (2 miles east of Poughkeepsie) he notes the object heading north at about 40 mph. He follows it for about 10 miles before it turns abruptly to the east, and he loses it as it starts to pick up speed (about 100 mph.).

These are just samples from a host of similar reports. Table I summarizes the three days of reports and reports are still being received (at present writing) and investigated. To date, a roundup of reports reveals the following:

Editorial Comment

This case cries out for a natural solution on the basis of previous experience; UFOs just do not generally appear to hundreds of witnesses in adjacent towns for appreciable lengths of time, and then give "repeat" performances. No suggestions so far put forth, however, meet the *reported* facts. With hundreds of witnesses, largely independent of each other, is seems statistically remote that so many independent witnesses could all have reported essentially the same thing and all be wrong!

Ninety-seven percent of the witnesses stated that the many lights, with which the boomerang shaped object was festooned, did not change their relative distances. This rules out any formation flying by small planes cruising about for a quarter-hour, making right angle turns, hovering for as much as two minutes, flying dangerously close to the ground, and far below stall speed.

A new super-secret military craft? Strange to be testing one in an urban area so close to New York City, and why that particular geographical area on several nights? Why hasn't this craft been seen in other parts of the country? Usually, new, secret military devices are kept from public view and are demonstrated and maneuvered on restricted military ranges.

Helicopters? It's virtually inconceivable that a formation of helicopters could maintain a rigid formation for 20 minutes and fly that close to the ground making only a faint humming sound. Yet these are the only craft that could hover without crashing.

A blimp like the Goodyear craft? The boomerang shape is hard to reconcile with this idea, and the relatively slow speed of this boomerang craft would be too great for a blimp. It is also highly improbable that a blimp would safely fly so low to the ground.

Apart from these difficulties, we have the testimony of technical personnel well acquainted with aircraft who have reported that they had never seen anything like this reported craft. Finally, the FAA stoutly maintains that there were no normal aircraft aloft in these areas at the times in question.

What then? If any reader knows what this boomerang craft might have been, something which satisfies the conditions of slow speed, hovering, essential noiselessness, low altitude and fixed positions of lights, we should be most pleased to have him solve this mystery for us.

Hynek Seminar

In response to a steady flow of requests for a comprehensive presentation on the current state of UFO phenomena research, two special seminars are being scheduled for presentation in the Chicago area.

These are being arranged as a part of the expanding Associate Education program of the Center for UFO Studies.

The seminars will be prepared and presented by Dr. J. Allen Hynek, Scientific Director of the Center for UFO Studies. The first evening seminar will be presented at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare on Saturday evening, Sept. 17 at 8:00 PM. The second is tentatively scheduled for Saturday evening, Oct. 22 at the Lakeshore Holiday Inn.

Persons in the Chicago area who are interested in participating in either of these meetings are invited to write to Dr. Hynek at P. O. Box 1402, Evanston, IL 60204 for a registration form and further details.

UFOLOGY in Sweden

by J. Allen Hynek

There is no question that interest and activities in ufology remain high in Scandinavian countries, even if one judges solely from the number and quality of their UFO publications, the number of their attendees at international UFO conferences, and correspondence with Scandinavian ufologists. I was able to get a personal, but limited, glimpse of ufology in Sweden as a result of a short visit to Gothenburg, in southwestern Sweden. My account of it here is, of course, subject to my limited view, but I feel it represents a fair, though necessarily incomplete, statement of the situation.

Because my time in Sweden was short, much of my information came from lengthy telephone conversations to various parts of Sweden. From these I gathered that UFO-SWEDEN is by far the outstanding UFO organization in that country. It came into being, I was told, in 1980 as the result of a major internal reorganization of the parent organization, UFO-INFORMATION, which was and still is headed by Carl-Axel Jonzon. The organization publishes a small format magazine, UFO-INFORMATION. UFO-SWEDEN I gather, emerged as the major UFO organization in Sweden, having absorbed a large part of the membership of the parent organization.

Mainstay of UFO-SWEDEN are over 20 local groups, most within a 125 mile radius of Stockholm. Exceptions are Umea in the north and Malmo to the south, where the present President of UFO-SWEDEN resides. The Central Group has its offices in Sala, some 65 miles from Stockholm, but various functions of the organization are carried out in other places. For example, their official publication, UFO SVERIGE AKTUELLT (Swedish UFO Update), a large-format quarterly, has editors in many cities but is under the general editorship of Hakan Ekstrand in Sala. It is a "slick" magazine, using color. The most recent copy I have (#4, 1982) has 44 pages, and contains some excellent articles and UFO reports. [Note: CUFOS needs volunteers to translate this excellent material; we would also appreciate help in the translation of material in Norwegian, Danish, and Finnish.].

Organization files are kept elsewhere by a group known as UFO-Archives, headed by Anders Liljegren, in Noffkoping, 85 miles from Sala. It has an extensive and active library, supported by sponsors from all over Sweden. As sponsors, they have library privileges and can take out books and publications. The Archives group is essentially a study group which does not engage in the active investigation of current UFO cases. That is left to UFO-SWEDEN proper and its well organized "Central Reporting" headed by Stig Aggestad, in Eskilstuna, 55 miles away from the Central Group in Sala.

The UFO reporting system is highly organized. There is a central reporting phone number (not toll-free) known to many newspapers, magazines, police stations, airports, etc., and to much of the public as well. When a call comes in, it is generally taken by Stig Aggestad (who unfortunately is confined to a wheel chair but who is, therefore, available full time for this valuable duty). I had the pleasure of a long phone conversation with Mr. Aggestad and so learned about their reporting system. Aggestad then notifies the closest UFO-SWEDEN group which, in turn, sends out one of its investigators to the scene if possible.

I do not know from personal observation just how efficiently the scheme works out, but I am told a fine corps of avid investigators is available. UFO-SWEDEN has some 3,000 members; this in a country whose total population is but eight million. If the same ratio held in the United States we should, collectively, have some 84,000 persons actively supporting UFO research!

Sweden had a sizeable "flap" in 1981 but 1982 had little activity, as apparently was the case in many countries. Norway, seems to have been the exception.

Any account of ufology in Sweden must include mention of Project URD, Sweden's contribution to UFO data banks. Under the guidance of Bertil Kuhlemann of Stockholm, this effort has gained prominence not only in Sweden but in other countries as well, due in part to the wisdom of issuing many of their publications in English which include a code book, a Field Investigator's Guide, and a general discussion of the collection and evaluation of observational data.

I hope in the future to be able to obtain similar "glimpses" into the status of ufology in the other Scandinavian countries.

Our Apology

We wish to apologize to ASSOCIATES who have received or may receive mailings soliciting their support while they are already supporting us. Mailing lists we receive do not conveniently permit us to make purging of duplicate names. If you are already an ASSOCIATE, we would be grateful if you would pass on the invitation to an interested friend who may be willing to join you in our support.

Trindade Revisited

secret service. The Navy also sent the pictures to Kodak to do chemical tests.

Q: Do you have the lab reports?

A: The Navy kept those classified.

Q: Did anyone ever come up with seemingly solid evidence against you?

A: There were just proofless accusations.

Q: Was there any attempt by the Navy or the government to hush it all up?

A: They did not try to cover it up. They did not become "Watergatey" [A new word in Portugese]. I had total support from the Navy.

Q: Did the Navy think in terms of a space ship or a man made device?

A: There was no attempt at interpreting what it was...they just gave a physical description of it in the report.

Q: (by Sprinkle) After all these years, how do you feel about your historic event?

A: I feel peaceful as I always have felt. I've always been fully confident about the sighting.

Q. When you tell this story to your grandchildren as time goes by, what will most clearly stand out in your mind?

A: The way the Navy and the crew backed me up.

Q: What was the weather like?

A: There was cirrus in the sky.

Q: Did the object ever pass in front of anything?

A: It passed in front of clouds but not in front of the mountain because it was higher than the mountain. But at one time it did pass behind the mountain and then returned.

Q: How high above the water was it?

A: Three or four hundred feet above sea level.

Toward the close of this informal interview, three things came up which I feel are significant. Just to clear the record, I asked if the object had been detected by ship's radar. He replied that it hadn't because all the electrical power aboard ship was out at the time. He was sure of the reality of the power outage because just before the object appeared a launch was being hauled up from the water by electric pulley, and it stopped midway just as the UFO appeared! A remarkable coincidence?

I asked casually how it was that, with so many men on deck at the time, no one else snapped a picture. The reply was unexpected. Yes, there was a newspaper photographer on board but be became so excited that he wet his pants; no picture was taken!

One final thing: the captain demanded that the films be developed immediately, so a dark room was improvised, a sergeant holding the curtains shut to keep out stray light during the 20 minute development.

Ufology Taught at Gaston College

UFOs: A NEW FRONTIER OF SCIENCE, will be taught for the fifth year during the Fall Quarter at the Lincoln County Campus of Gaston College in Lincolnton, North Carolina by George D. Fawcett, a veteran of 39 years of UFO research and investigations.

The thirty-hour course continues for twelve weeks on Tuesday nights, beginning September 13 from 7:15 PM to 9:45 PM. It has been approved for teacher renewal and three credit hours. Those who successfully complete the course will be presented with Certificates of Achievement.

Registration should be directed to 443 E. Main Street, Lincolnton, N.C. 28092. Phone (704) 735-0487.

Other qualified teacher ASSOCIATES interested in receiving a copy of the Course Outline should send $1.00 to CUFOS, P.O. Box 1621, Lima, Ohio 45802.

Recent Articles Appearing in the ASSOCIATE NEWSLETTER

Many who read the INTERNATIONAL UFO REPORTER are ASSOCIATES Level I and do not receive the alternate bi-monthly CUFOS ASSOCIATE NEWSLETTER which is sent to ASSOCIATES Level II and beyond. Therefore, many of you may not be aware of other items available through our offices.

To give those Level I (ASSOCIATES of the First Kind) readers some idea of what they are not reading, we list here a few of the articles which have appeared in recent issues of the NEWSLETTER.

TRAVEL: 3 DIMENSIONS AND BEYOND, by Dr. Carl Zapffe, research scientist and professional engineer with a consulting office and research laboratory in Baltimore and boyhood friend of Kenneth Arnold in northern Minnesota. Dr. Zapffe discusses the commonly reported UFO sighting features of freedom from gravitation, apparent control over $E=mc^2$ and extreme velocities.

AN INTERVIEW WITH GERMAN UFO AUTHORITY ADOLPH SCHNEIDER, translated from the German publication Journal for UFO-Forschung of GEP by Trudy McVicker. Mr. Schneider, planning and development engineer of modern communications installations for Siemens AG of Munich, Germany, and well-known authority on UFO Phenomena, discusses the Heim theory of unified (standard) six-dimensional quantim-geometrodynamics as a possible explanation of UFO phenomena.

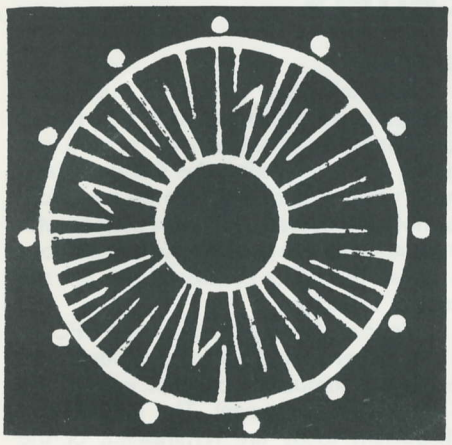
FURTHER ANALYSIS OF THE LOGRONO TAPE by Robert H. Coddington, employing over twenty years of experience in radio technology to detail a final, comprehensive explanation of this 1972 recording of unexplained sounds made by Javier Bosque in Logrono, Spain.

These and many other interesting news items, photographic cases and correspondence from sighting witnesses are available either as back-issues for individual purchase or as ASSOCIATES of the Second Kind and beyond.

How Do We Explain This One?

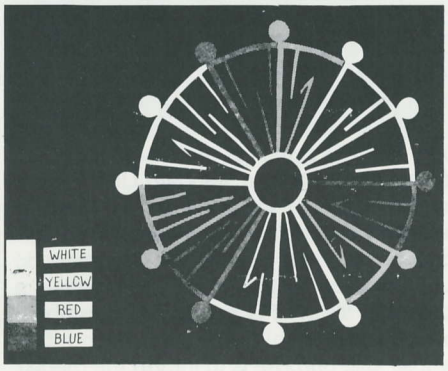
Some readers may question the inclusion of this article in a publication devoted to the investigation of the UFO phenomenon. It may, however, be trenchantly relevant. For, what a person draws is not necessarily what appears on his retinas. This is certainly relevant to UFO drawings, and thus to UFO research.

On page 197 of Allan Hendry's UFO HANDBOOK, is this drawing:



This drawing appeared in Allen Hendry's UFO HANDBOOK. It is the image seen by a woman who watched Jupiter for four hours with binoculars.

On the center insert in I. W. Whiteside's book, SHARON'S UFO CODE FOR OUTER SPACE one finds this drawing. What is the relation, if any, between these two nearly identical and unusual drawings?



This drawing, appearing in SHARON'S UFO CODE FOR OUTER SPACE by I. W. Whiteside, shows a series of color patterns seen by Whiteside and his granddaughter, Sharon.

Hendry states: "The drawing here was done by a woman who watched Jupiter for over four hours in the northeast sky with binoculars. To the naked eye the UFO appeared only as a point of light, but the characteristic shape was created by the out-of-focus lens arrangement."

The Whiteside drawing has a totally different origin, one which I would not venture to relate were I not well acquainted with the two witnesses who are friends of the family, and had I not personally examined the room where this and other light patterns were reported to have played on the glass door of an enclosed bookcase, and had completely satisfied myself that reflections of any sort were out of the question.

I also have the solemn word of the two witnesses that they did NOT know of the Hendry drawing prior to the recording of the events described in the Whiteside book. Mr. Whiteside, incidentally, is a retired senior engineer of the Bell Telephone Laboratories.

In brief, this is the story of the second drawing. One evening, for about two hours, a series of color patterns marched diagonally (from lower left to upper right) and repetively across a glass-enclosed bookcase kept in a small heavily curtained bedroom. Unfortunately, we cannot reproduce the vivid colors (white, yellow, blue, and red) which were sequentially arranged in the pattern.

The first witness to these patterns was

(continued on page 16)

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Third Kind	$60.00	$65.00	$70.00	IUR, A/N, JUS
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Patron	$250.00	—	$250.00	Periodicals+2 books
Sponsor	$500.00	—	$500.00	Periodicals+3 books
Major	$1,000.00	—	$1,000.00	Periodicals+4 books

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nine-year-old Sharon, granddaughter of Mr. Whiteside, and the daughter of a very close associate of mine. She called her grandfather's attention to the "color show" (in an otherwise completely darkened bedroom) and he took careful note of the moving patterns and drew them with Sharon's aid.

It was more than a month later that Sharon, looking up some books on UFOs in the local library (Whiteside had become convinced that the patterns were connected with UFOs), stumbled upon the drawing in Hendry's book. She excitedly brought it to her grandfather's attention.

We are concerned here only with an empirical happening, the near coincidence of the two drawings. Later, Mr. Whiteside attempted an interpretation of the pattern of lights and colors. He now firmly believes that they represent a code of some sort. Those readers who wish to pursue this aspect of the puzzle may obtain the 43-page book from Exposition Press, Smithtown, N.Y. 11787 ($4.00).

With respect to the Hendry drawing, it might seem odd that an out-of-focus image should show such sharp detail, with lines in focus and 12 sharp circles equally spaced "around the clock." Of course, what a person draws is not necessarily what was imprinted on his retina; the brain, imagination, and wishful thinking all play a part in the drawing of "what one saw"!

This would, of course, apply equally well to the Whiteside drawing; could both of the artists have drawn upon some Jungian archetypal image? Both experiences lasted for approximately the same length of time for all percipients. □

Formation of North American UFO Federation

A major step was taken in Pasadena, California on July 3, 1983 for the unification of UFO organizations in the United States and Canada with the formation of the North American UFO Federation. A Steering Committee appointed in Toronto, Ontario on July 4, 1982, culminated their work by establishing corporate bylaws and electing a Board of Directors.

The purpose of the North American UFO Federation will include (1) to unite UFO organizations in North America in a format of understanding, cooperation, and harmony of efforts to study and resolve the UFO phenomenon, (2) to share information on UFO sightings and analyses, (3) to develop and utilize a standard UFO reporting form, which will result in the use of a standard vocabulary of ufology, (4) to produce a standard manual for documenting UFO reports, (5) to provide and maintain a computer file of UFO reports, (6) to establish an effective public relations committee whose sole purpose is to inform the media/public on new UFO reports, provide educational materials, respond to unfavorable propaganda immediately, provide names, addresses and telephone numbers of individuals within various organizations who are available for lectures, public appearances, and writing contracts, and to promote the North American UFO Federation and ufology at every opportunity, (7) to establish a committee to represent the Federation at the national level in each country serviced by NAUFOF to push the basic objectives of the organization,(8) to provide guidance on the issues of technical and scientific importance and to resolve problems affecting unity and the goals of NAUFOF through the actions of the executive committee, and (9) to provide a forum for universal participation through NAUFOF.

The North American UFO Federation will work directly with the worldwide International Committee on UFO Research that is meeting in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, England on August 26, 1983. Dr. J. Allen Hynek, representing the Center for UFO Studies, and Michael Sinclair, representing the Mutual UFO Network, will attend this meeting. □

Letters

Dr. Hynek:

Your talk today on the Ed Bush show brought back many memories. As a retired Earth-Space science teacher, I recalled very vividly the time during the Condon-Nixon years when science teachers were cautioned not to encourage UFO discussions with their students. I'm glad that we've advanced a bit so that UFO considerations are not subject to threats.

Your explanation today of the UFO as a 4th Dimension phenomenon was a welcome and stimulating concept, even if only a conjecture at present. The ridicule and skepticism today are reminiscent of the days long past when people claiming to see rocks falling from the sky were declared insane. It took over a hundred years to unravel the truth. Do you think it may take another hundred years to understand the UFO?

Rose M. Kuczma
Rio Rancho, New Mexico

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